

TYDD ST GILES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Tydd St Giles Parish Council held in the Community Centre on Thursday 14th November 2024

Present - Cllr T Brown (Chairman), Cllr B Allen, Cllr M Carter, Cllr G Clifton, Cllr L Slade, Cllr B Barber (FDC) (from 057/24), D Gibbs (Clerk), 9 members of the public

Apologies for Absence - Cllr K Malin, Cllr S King (CCC), Cllr S Clark (FDC), Cllr C Seaton (FDC)

051/24 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman paid tribute to former councillor and well-known local farmer Henry Howlett who passed away recently. Members observed a minute's silence in his memory.

The Chairman reported that the free defibrillator training session in September was very successful and thanked the East of England Ambulance Service First Responders for running the session. No fee was charged, but the Chairman suggested that a donation be made to assist them in purchasing essential equipment.

The Golden Age Fair in the Community Centre in September was also a successful and worthwhile event, with almost 30 support agencies and service providers attending.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman attended the North Level District Internal Drainage Board's View Day, learning more about the work of the Board and visiting several of their facilities.

Finally the Chairman reminded the meeting that the District Council Chairman's Carol Service will be held at St Peter's Church, Wisbech on the evening of 6th December and everybody is welcome to attend.

052/24 Public Forum

A resident asked about progress with the repair of the lights on the signs at both ends of the traffic calming islands outside the school. The Clerk confirmed that these had been reported.

A member of the public noted that the Council has received payments from National Grid for surveys on Council-owned land and asked whether tenants are also eligible to receive payments. The Chairman explained that the payments were made to the landowner.

A question was asked in relation to the accuracy of the wording of a planning consultation submission.

053/24 Urgent Items

None.

054/24 Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12th September be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

055/24 Matters Arising

- a) Bus service - The Council is consulting residents regarding their use of the bus service and future needs.

- b) Trees in Hannath Road - The Clerk continues to pursue this matter with the County Council.
- c) Foul Anchor bench - Awaiting the development of a wider project.
- d) Vacant property in Sapphire Close - The Clerk will discuss the future allocation with Clarion Housing.

056/24 Police Matters

The Chairman reported that no meetings had taken place. The Clerk reminded anybody witnessing hare coursing to report it immediately to the Police.

057/24 Cambridgeshire County Councillor Report

In Cllr King's absence, there was no report.

058/24 Fenland District Councillor Reports

Cllr Barber reported that the Street Pride group had found litter around the front of the Community Centre and suggested that the litter bin be relocated closer to the building to prevent this. Having discussed this with the relevant officers at the District Council she was informed that the bin could not be moved, but that an additional bin could be provided at a cost of £350. The Chairman asked the Management Committee to monitor the situation.

059/24 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on meetings attended and correspondence received, including the Cambridgeshire ACRE AGM, a Highways stakeholder survey, the second roadside weed spraying, tougher penalties for fly-tipping and similar offences, the new street light maintenance contract, a proposal to relocate the District Council's headquarters, the Combined Authority bus franchising consultation, the new National Association of Local Councils website, and the Green Energy Switch free appliance scheme.

060/24 Reports from Members

- a) Cllr Allen - Communications, Foul Anchor and Four Gotes - Facebook users have complained about the delay in approving posts on the Community Discussion page. The Chairman explained that moderation was necessary to ensure that unacceptable posts were not displayed and that the moderators endeavour to approve posts promptly. The Community Payback team has started the transformation of the area adjacent to the War Memorial in Foul Anchor. Further work will take place over the coming months. The Chairman commended the Payback team for their hard work.
- b) Cllr Carter - Community Centre and Play Equipment - The Christmas Fair will take place on 30th November. The application to the Government's VCSE programme for the new heating system was unsuccessful. Alternative solutions may be required due to the inability to secure funding for this project. Problems with the grass cutting contractor continue, with the outsides and the play area not cut for two months. A second broadband connection will be installed to provide a secure connection for the bar terminal. The Brigstock & Wren's charity has contributed £2,000 towards the purchase and installation of the new junior play tower and soft surfacing. A new fenced under-5s play area will be established.
- c) Cllr Connell - Highways - No report.
- d) Cllr Malin - Armed forces, flooding, Kinderley School - No report.

- e) Cllr Clifton - Public rights of way, churchyard, trees - The Community Payback team will be working in the churchyard on 17th November around the Green Burial Ground. He will continue to explore the public rights of way and hopes to gain a better understanding in the near future.
- f) Cllr Slade - Street lights and parish assets - The light outside the Community Centre is not working. The District Council has installed new dog fouling signage on bins and lamp posts around the village.

061/24 Member and Parishioner Issues

Cllr Clifton asked why no action has been taken in relation to the collapsed drain cover on the pavement in Newgate Road. The Clerk confirmed that this has been reported to Highways a number of times but they are reluctant to take any action.

062/24 Parish Land

- a) Members resolved to adopt the terms of reference for the committee.
- b) A meeting of the committee will be held soon.

063/24 Brigstock & Wren's Charity

The Chairman reported that a vacancy has arisen for a Trustee of the Brigstock and Wren's Charity following the retirement of Janet Findlay and that the Trustees are appointed by the Council. Duncan Godfrey was proposed by Cllr Clifton, seconded by Cllr Carter and duly appointed.

064/24 Highways

- a) The Local Highway Improvements application for 2024/25 for a new street light in Kirkgate has been approved. Installation will take place over the coming months.
- b) Members considered potential projects for the Local Highway Improvements application for 2025/26 and resolved to apply for an additional street light at the junction of Broad Drove East, High Broadgate and Newgate Road. The Clerk will prepare and submit the application.
- c) The Community Gritting Scheme application has been submitted and the Clerk is negotiating the details with Highways officers.
- d) The Clerk is preparing the paperwork for the Community Speed Watch application for submission to Cambridgeshire Police.
- e) Members considered highway issues for submission for the Capitally Funded Highway Maintenance Schemes for 2025/26. They agreed to submit the subsidence in Newgate Road and the road surface, footway surface and drainage in Hockland Road.

065/24 Fenland District Council Infrastructure Delivery Plan

The District Council seeks the views of local councils for inclusion in the new Infrastructure Delivery Plan that will form part of the next Fenland Local Plan. Members agreed to consult residents to seek their views.

066/24 Parish Council Duty Under Section 40 of NERC 2006

The Chairman outlined the new legislation requiring the Council to consider environmental impact as part of its decision making. No model policy is available for this purpose, so the Clerk was asked to prepare a draft for discussion at the next meeting.

067/24 Planning

- a) F/YR24/0884/VOC - Variation of condition 8 (northern hedge) of planning permission F/YR21/1422/F (Erect a dwelling (2-storey, 5-bed) with attached double garage) relating to removal of hedge - Land West of Magnolia Cottage, Kirkgate, Tydd St Giles

The Chairman noted that a similar application at an adjacent location had been approved retrospectively. Members resolved to offer no objection.

- b) F/YR24/0885/VOC - Variation of condition 9 (northern hedge) of planning permission F/YR20/1212/F (Erection of 1 x 2 storey 3-bed dwelling and 1 x 2-storey 4-bed dwelling with garages) relating to removal of hedge in relation to plot 3 only - Plots 2 And 3 Land West of Magnolia Cottage, Kirkgate, Tydd St Giles

Members resolved to offer no objection.

- c) F/YR24/0889/F - Formation of a vehicular access (to a dwelling currently under construction) (part retrospective) - Plot 2 Land West of Magnolia Cottage, Kirkgate, Tydd St Giles

Members resolved to offer no objection.

068/24 Finance

- a) The Clerk presented the financial statement as at the end of October showing income of £28,675.80, expenditure of £19,056.07, resulting in a surplus of £9,619.73 and funds held of £49,116.53.
- b) Members noted the Local Government pay settlement for 2024/25.
- c) Members noted the following sums received since the last meeting:-

Barclays Bank (interest).....	£ 67.53
Community Centre (donation).....	£ 1,800.00
National Grid (land survey)	£ 250.00
Fenland District Council (precept).....	£ 9,000.00
J Ball (allotment rent)	£ 50.00
Brigstock & Wren's Charity (grant)	£ 2,000.00

- d) Members ratified the following payments made since the last meeting:-

HMRC (national insurance).....	£ 23.34
NEST (pension contributions)	£ 293.18

- e) Members approved the following payments:-

D Gibbs (salary October and November and backpay)	£ 1,696.26
Nurture Landscapes Ltd (grass cutting)	£ 329.62
Tydd St Giles CC&RG (hall hire)	£ 232.00
Brigstock & Wren's Charity (rent)	£ 135.00
A R Pateman (poppy wreaths)	£ 50.00

A donation of £250 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act to the East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust for the Community First Responder team was proposed and agreed.

- f) Members noted the report of the External Auditor for 2023/24 and the completion of the annual audit.

- g) Members were asked to consider potential projects for inclusion in the budget for 2025/26 and to submit details to the Clerk for evaluation prior to the meeting.

069/24 Policies and Procedures

Members reviewed the following policies and procedures and resolved to re-adopt them:

- i) Complaints Procedure
- ii) Grievance Policy
- iii) Disciplinary Policy
- iv) Safeguarding Policy

070/24 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday 9th January 2025 at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm